



Alderbury & West Grimstead

Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher Mr W Thorpe



NEWSLETTER NO. 32

27 June 2025

Dear Parents, Staff and Governors

Reflections from the Headteacher



My fourth memory of my time at AWGS is from my fourth year here (2020-2021). During that year, we managed the various obstacles thrown at us by the COVID-19 pandemic, with ever changing rules. We spent a great deal of time working in small “Bubbles” to prevent the spread of disease. As you can see, throughout that time, we retained our love of reading (which made Miss Hodgson very happy!).

Wiltshire Air Ambulance First Aid Training

A massive “Thank You” to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance, who have been in school this week to deliver vital First Aid and Emergency Awareness training to all of our pupils. Depending on their age, pupils have learned about:

- How to make a 999 call
- The Recovery position
- CPR
- Choking
- How to use a defibrillator

As I am sure you appreciate, these are essential life skills.

Foundations for Life



Pickwick Academy Trust

Year 4 Trip to Harnham Water Meadows

Year 4 had a lovely trip this week to Harnham Water Meadows, to support their Enquiry about water. They visited the classroom at Rose Cottage and learnt about rivers, the history of the area, drowning the meadows and much more besides! They then had a very interesting walk across the water meadows, looking at the river hatches and nature within the area. The children were beautifully behaved and asked many engaging and insightful questions.



Moving Up Morning

We have welcomed our New Owls into school on Thursday this week, and look forward to having them join us again next Wednesday (2 July) for Moving Up Morning. The majority of our Year 6 pupils will also be going to their new secondary schools that day.

I can confirm the classes / teachers for next year will be as follows:

Owls (Year R) – Miss Orphan

Hedgehogs which will comprise: Squirrels (Year 1) & Hedgehogs (Year 2) – Mrs Valley

Rabbits (Year 3) – Mrs Pallas

Foxes (Year 4) – Mrs Rooney & Mrs Robson

Badgers (Year 5) – Mr Goldsack-Marsh & Mrs Storey

Deer (Year 6) – Mr Tatnall

We are pleased to be welcoming Mrs Storey back at the end of this term, following her maternity leave.

Mrs Anderson will be on maternity leave from the start of the next academic year.

I am delighted to confirm that Mrs Rooney has been appointed as a class teacher for the coming academic year – making good use of her degree (BA Education Studies) and playing to her many strengths, which we have seen over a number of years in her support role.

KS1 Hillier Gardens trip

On Tuesday, all of KS1 went on a school trip to Hillier Gardens to support our next enquiry 'What grows near me?' We went on a walk through the gardens and identified evergreen and deciduous trees. Using leaves we collected, we created a wonderful string artwork. The highlight for most pupils was pond dipping! We even managed to find some nymphs and a few newts. The trip was a fantastic opportunity to learn, create and explore the natural world. The pupil's curiosity, enthusiasm and behaviour were a credit to the school. Thank you to all the staff and parent volunteers that helped make it such a memorable day.

Sports Day

It's almost here! The eagerly awaited Sports Day is happening on **Tuesday 1 July**, with a backup date of **Friday 18 July** (just in case the weather has other plans!).

Mr Goldsack-Marsh, Mr Bowley, and all the amazing children are gearing up for an unforgettable day of fun, fierce competition, and *serious* team spirit. Trust us — you won't want to miss it!

Sports Day Refreshments

At Sports Day, FAWGS have organised a pop-up coffee trailer (Kettle and Crumb) to supply refreshments. Below is an idea of prices:

Cold drinks -£1 each

Coffee - £2.70

Tea - £2.00

Cookies and cakes between £1.50 - £2.70 depending on size

PARENTS, THIS YEAR YOU'RE BACK IN THE SPOTLIGHT TOO!

Yes, you heard it right! The Parents' Race is BACK — and this time, it's going to COUNT towards the team scores. So, don't just cheer from the side-lines. Put on your running trainers...

The Schedule:

- **KS1 Sports Day** (Years R, 1 & 2): **9:30 AM – 11:30 AM**
- **KS2 Sports Day** (Years 3 to 6): **12:30 PM – 3:15 PM**

Arrangements

For family members that are attending Sports Day, could we kindly ask that you wear (if possible) the colour of your child's CAT team.

If you do not know, what CAT team your child is then ask Mr Goldsack-Marsh, or school admin.

In between KS1 sports day ending and KS2 sports day starting, we are asking that parents please leave the school site. Parents can then return for when KS2 sports day starts again. This requirement is to meet our health and safety responsibilities.

Year 4 Shine with Silver at Tri-Golf County Finals

A huge congratulations to our amazing Year 4 golf team who came **second** in the **Tri-Golf County Finals**!

Competing against top schools from across the county, the team showed fantastic skill, teamwork, and determination. From accurate chipping to powerful putting, they gave it their all and impressed everyone with their sportsmanship and energy.

Finishing just a few points behind first place, the team were thrilled with their silver medals – and so were we!

Well-Done, Team Year 4 – a brilliant achievement!

FAWGS

Colour Run

Today is the LAST DAY that you can book tickets for the colour run. The order is going in tomorrow morning so we can't accept any more entries after that. If anyone else would like to take part please email fawgschool@gmail.com

Raffle

Also, a reminder to bring your raffle ticket stubs back to school, either with cash in the envelope provided or pay via bank transfer with the reference "Raffle" and your name. Please return any unwanted tickets to school as we can sell them on and it avoids wasting them.

Volunteers

As always, we desperately need volunteers to help on the day to run stalls or help with the colour run. If you would be willing to help for an hour or two, please could you let me know - email fawgschool@gmail.com, message 07765966186 or just grab me at school drop off or pick up. I would be so grateful as we are going to struggle otherwise.

Thank you - Suzy, Teresa and Danea

Protection from the sun

As you are all enjoying the sunshine, this is just a reminder to apply sunscreen to your child before school and/or make sure they have a roll-on type sunscreen, they can apply themselves as necessary. If children have sun hats, we would encourage them to bring them to school to wear at break and lunchtime.

NSPCC's 'Speak out, Stay safe' Programme

AWGS is participating in the **NSPCC's 'Speak out, Stay safe' Programme** this term.

'*Speak out, Stay safe*' is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

More information is in the attached letter.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Our summer production this year will be Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and will take place at the Village Hall on Tuesday 15 July. Performances will take place at 2pm and 5pm and all children in the school will be involved in both productions. Please put the date in your diary! Details of how to reserve your seats will follow next week!

Pre-Loved Uniform

We have a large amount of good quality, freshly washed Pre-Loved School Uniform that is available for a small donation of £1 per item. Please come to the school office, if you are looking for anything specific for your child.

Holiday Club

A reminder that Alderbury Preschool will be running a summer holiday club for primary school children. Please contact the preschool for further information.

Time Out for Parents

These sessions will be running Tuesday Mornings 9.15am - 10.45am for six weeks, starting Tuesday 3 June, in the school hall, with our school Chaplain, Louise and Mark from the Bridge Project. All our welcome. A free handbook and refreshments will be available.



As we lose ourselves in the service of others, we discover our own lives and happiness

Diary Dates – new dates underlined

July

Tuesday 1 July	Sports Day
Sunday 13	FAWGS Colour Run (3pm)
Tuesday 15	Whole School Production (2pm & 5pm)
Thursday 24	Final Day of Term
	Year 6 Leavers Service – Parents of Year 6 Only (12:45 pm)
	2pm Break up for Summer Holidays

Best wishes

Mr Thorpe
Headteacher